

25 April 1945

DATE OF INFORMATION: 20 April 1945

SUBSOURCE: : Piedmont

TO : Chief, SI/MEDTO
Chief, Italian/SI

FROM : ~~NEW~~ SARAZEN

Subsource states that Soviet Russia is most anxious to effect an arrangement with the Holy See and is trying for a modus vivendi. News previously received by the Vatican from Poland, Hungary and Rumania has revealed Soviet tactics to be as follows: No harm is done to the local priests in these countries and they are given freedom, but in the meantime the Soviet Union continues its usual attacks on the Vatican; this results in confusion and the idea that Soviet representatives are on good terms with the priests with whom they come in contact while the Vatican hinders a good understanding with Russia.

According to subsource, the Vatican will make no agreement with Soviet Russia until all political controversies are settled among Soviet Russia and the United States and Great Britain. The Holy See is fully aware that if any arrangement were made with Russia before this political settlement Russia would use this fact against the Western Allies. The interests of the United States and Britain are the interests of the Vatican and of the Pope. Subsource has this information from the highest Vatican authorities.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODSEXEMPTION 3826
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008